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Summary record of the 21st meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 9 December 2010, at 10 a.m.

Chair: Mr. Rosenthal. . . . . (Guatemala)
Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: Ms. McLurg

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Agenda item 147: Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Agenda item 148: Financing of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (A/65/512 and A/65/598)

1. **Mr. Yamazaki** (Controller), introducing the note by the Secretary-General on financing arrangements for the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 (A/65/512), recalled that the General Assembly, by its resolution 64/275, had appropriated an amount of $1,365,000,000 for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 for the maintenance of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) and had decided to apportion among Member States the amount of $682,500,000 for the six-month period from 1 July to 31 December 2010.

2. The projected requirements for MONUSCO for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 amounted to $1,364,973,000. The proposed staffing reflected an increase of 39 temporary positions, comprising 16 international and national positions and 23 United Nations Volunteers to implement additional mandated tasks such as support for the voter registration process and election preparations. The proposed deployment for MONUSCO also reflected an increase from 64 to 89 Government-provided personnel with the addition of 25 military justice experts to support the establishment of Prosecution Support Cells.

3. The estimated resource requirements included a projected decrease of $38.2 million for military contingents, primarily related to the repatriation of 1,674 troops by the end of July 2010, and projected increases of $0.8 million for United Nations Volunteers, $0.9 million for general temporary assistance and $32.9 million for air transportation for the deployment of 13 additional aircraft to distribute voter registration materials.

4. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 30 of the note.

5. **Ms. McLurg** (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), introducing the related report of the Advisory Committee (A/65/598), said that the projected resource requirements for MONUSCO reflected a combination of two factors: an increase in requirements resulting from new mandates and a decrease in requirements, estimated at $43.6 million, resulting from the repatriation of military personnel.

6. During its review of the requirements relating to support for the voter registration process and preparations for the elections to be held in late 2011, the Advisory Committee had received additional information indicating that the voter registration process would end on 30 November 2010 and that MONUSCO had provided the necessary support using its existing air assets and aircraft borrowed from neighbouring missions. The cost estimate for air operations in support of the voter registration process had been revised accordingly from $33 million to $29 million.

7. The Advisory Committee recommended approval of the 39 temporary positions proposed by the Secretary-General.

8. Taking into account the revised estimate in respect of support for voter registration and the possibility of underexpenditure in some areas for the current period, the Advisory Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve an assessment in the amount of $652,500,000 for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011. That amount would be in addition to the $682,500,000 already assessed under General Assembly resolution 64/275.

9. **Mr. Coffi** (Côte d'Ivoire), speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, said that the Mission's change of title, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1925 (2010), reflected an augmented mandate to assist the Congolese authorities in achieving stabilization and peacebuilding based on the principle of national ownership. That mandate included support for the reform of the Congolese National Police, technical and logistical support for the organization of national and local elections and the development and implementation, in close consultation with the Congolese authorities and in accordance with the Congolese strategy for justice reform, of a multi-year joint United Nations justice support programme. The maximum authorized military and police strength of MONUSCO was identical to that of MONUC.

10. The General Assembly should approve all the resources requested by the Secretary-General in order to ensure that MONUSCO was able to discharge its mandate to support the Congolese authorities, upon their request and with their consent, in achieving the full stabilization of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The meeting rose at 10.25 a.m.